



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SACRED
LITERATURE.

THE BIBLE STUDENTS' READING GUILD.

The monthly assignment of reading for the year is given below. There may be slight variations from this, but such will be noticed in the Postal Bulletin of the month in which the variations occur.

October.

Seidel—*In the Times of Jesus*, pp. 1-93.

Edersheim—*Sketches of Jewish Social Life*, pp. 1-138.

BIBLICAL WORLD (July) Geography of Palestine.

(August) Editorials and Geography of Palestine.

November.

Edersheim—*Sketches of Jewish Social Life*, pp. 93-192.

Seidel—*In the Times of Jesus*, pp. 138-295.

BIBLICAL WORLD (September, October) Editorials.

Geography of Palestine.

December.

Harmony—Parts I., II., III.

Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 1-149.

BIBLICAL WORLD (November, December) Geography of Palestine.

Introduction to Gospels, I.

January.

Harmony—Parts IV. and V.

Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 149-298.

BIBLICAL WORLD (January) Introduction to Gospels, II.

Teachings of Jesus, I.

February.

Harmony—Part VI., and Chapter XXV. of Part VII.

Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 299-402.

BIBLICAL WORLD (February) Introduction to Gospels, III.

Teachings of Jesus, II.

March.

Harmony—Part VII., from Chapter XXVI.

Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 403-491.

BIBLICAL WORLD (March) Introduction to Gospels, IV.

Teachings of Jesus, III.

April.

Harmony—Part VIII.

Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 493-776.

BIBLICAL WORLD (April) Teachings of Jesus, IV.

May.

Harmony—Part IX.

Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 777-861.

BIBLICAL WORLD (May) Teachings of Jesus, V.

Bushnell—*Character of Jesus*.

June.

Brooks—*Influence of Jesus*.

BIBLICAL WORLD (June) Teachings of Jesus, VI.

Local Chapters—Wherever possible local chapters of the Guild should be formed. These may be in connection with churches, Sunday-school teachers' meetings, or, better, independent of any organization. If only two persons can be found ready to commence the course let them read and meet at regular intervals to discuss their work.

Chapters may meet weekly, but in most places a fortnightly meeting will be more practicable. The organization of a Chapter should be as simple as possible. Only two officers, a president and a secretary, are desirable, and of these only the second is required, in order that he may be the medium of communication between the Chapter and the office of the Institute. It is well to put the preparation of the programmes for meetings, and the general direction of the reading of a Chapter in the hands of an executive committee, who shall serve not less than two months. If a good committee is secured a year is not too long for such an appointment, in order that unity may be given to the work.

For the benefit of those Chapters which are not fully organized and for those who prefer not to prepare their own programmes for October, the following topics are suggested. Care should be taken to select such subjects as will make a complete and rounded programme, that is, touching every side of the subject. Not more than five subjects and a map drill should be upon any one programme.

1. Methods of calculating the time in which Christ lived.
2. The Roman Empire as an agent in the propagation of Christianity.
3. The Religious Condition of Heathendom at the Advent of Christ.
4. Skepticism, Epicureanism, Stoicism—the Roman substitutes for a decaying religion.
5. The home and home life of the Gentile.
6. The public life of the Gentile.
7. Reading from Ben Hur (to be selected).
8. Judea—situation—places of interest—the life of its people.
9. Samaria (ditto).
10. Galilee (ditto).
11. Character and work of Herod the Great.
12. The Roman procurators in Palestine.
13. Herod Antipas in his relation to Jesus and John the Baptist.
14. The relations of Jews and Gentiles in the land.

15. A week's Journey in Palestine (imaginary sketch).
16. Taxes and customs.
17. Jerusalem, the Holy City.
18. An ancient Jewish town.
19. Jewish family life.
20. Maxims from the Book of Proverbs concerning the training of children.
21. The Jewish mother.
22. The education of a Jewish child.
23. Subjects of study in the Jewish schools.
24. Literary work among the Jews.
25. The Jewish school system.
26. Map study. The situation of Palestine with relation to the ancient world.
27. The climatic divisions of Palestine.
28. The effect of the geographical peculiarities of the land of Palestine upon the lives of the people inhabiting its different parts.

Additional Reading.—For the benefit of those who would like to do additional reading, reference to the following books will be found helpful :

Ewald—*History of Israel*, Vol. VI.

Stanley—*Lectures on the Jewish Church*, Third Series.

Edersheim—*The Temple and its Ministry*.

Thomson—*The Land and the Book*.

Stanley—*Sinai and Palestine*.

Merrill—*Galilee in the Time of Christ*.

Smith—*Dictionary of the Bible*.

A relief map of Palestine which gives the configuration of the land will throw much light on the life of the people. Such a one is published by F. J. Burgi & Co., Rochester, N. Y.

A person of some ingenuity can manufacture a map of this character from paper pulp, formed by mixing a little glue with newspaper which has been soaked in water several hours. The pulp is then perfectly pliable, and may be spread flat upon a board. The mountains, valleys, rivers, and plains can easily be modeled by a deft use of the fingers, and the towns may be indicated in ink. A careful study of the illustrations and descriptions in Professor Riggs' articles in the BIBLICAL WORLD will provide the necessary data for this map.

Chapter rates for books.—Although the prices of the books have already been placed much below that of the publishers, a still further reduction will be made to Chapters ordering all the books at once. Five or more sets of books, including the BIBLICAL WORLD, will be sent to one address for *seven dollars* each, and for *five dollars and fifty cents* each without the BIBLICAL WORLD.

Already it has been discovered that many desire to become members of the Guild, who cannot afford to buy the books. Should any such come to the

notice of our members, would it not be wise to suggest to them that the Sunday School Library might, with good results, be requested to place one or more sets upon its shelves. Also, in any town of sufficient size to support a public library, the librarian will probably be glad to receive so well selected a list for addition to the library.

GENERAL INSTITUTE NOTES.

The work of the Institute is increasing to such an extent that it has become necessary to appoint a field secretary. Rev. Herbert L. Willett has been chosen for this work. He will devote much of his time to traveling about the country, organizing clubs and chapters, arranging for Institutes, Lecture Courses, and awakening an interest in Bible Study in all its phases, both scholarly and popular. Mr. Willett is himself a biblical specialist, having received his training in this subject in Yale, and at the University of Chicago.

A special feature of the work for the coming year will be the award of the *College Prizes* in Hebrew, New Testament Greek, and the English Bible, for the best examinations on these subjects, from an undergraduate student. A first prize of one hundred dollars, and a second prize of fifty dollars will be offered in each subject. The prizes in Hebrew are offered by the Sinai Congregation of Chicago. In New Testament Greek they will be awarded by Mr. J. G. Batterson of Hartford, Conn. The name of the person who will offer the prizes in the English Bible cannot yet be announced. A special circular giving necessary instructions to those who wish to prepare for the examinations will be sent to all colleges.

The financial support of the Institute has seldom been alluded to in these pages. It may be of interest to some however to know that its income from fees is inadequate for even the most necessary expenses. In addition, it is advisable to expend large sums in introducing the work in new fields. Each year good friends of the cause have, by their subscriptions, assumed something of the financial responsibility.

Increasing success only brings greater expenses, and more frequent calls for an enlargement of the work. Ten thousand dollars should be used in the extension and propagation of the courses this year. A subscription list is now in circulation among the special friends of the Institute.

It is possible that there are others whose names are unknown to us who yet have a great interest in the work. Subscriptions of large or small amounts from such will be as helpful and as welcome as from any other source. Such subscriptions should be sent to the Principal of the American Institute of Sacred Literature, Hyde Park, Chicago, Ill.

An endowment list containing the names of all who have subscribed to this amount will be published from time to time.

The formation of Bible Study Unions in large cities is a step which the Institute will be able to take in the near future. The object of such a local

ganization will be to band together the Bible clubs, members of the Guild, and all others working under the direction of the Institute, in order that by uniting their resources, they may secure each year a good lecture course upon a Biblical subject which shall be mutually agreed upon.

No other organization for Christian work has laid so much stress upon the value of Bible Study, has had so many and so large Bible classes, has considered it so vital a part of their work as the Y. M. C. A.

It is safe to say, however, that most of this work has been governed by the idea of *immediate* use in evangelistic work. The fact that the Bible should be studied for the sake of personal growth and grasp of truth in Christian living, has not been sufficiently emphasized. It has therefore been especially difficult to persuade the members of Young Men's Christian Associations to take up Institute courses. At last the Association in Brooklyn, N. Y., leads the way with several clubs in the Central Association and the prospect of others in branch associations.

On the other hand, the Young *Womans'* Christian Association have unhesitatingly accepted the guidance of the Institute in their Biblical work for the coming year. They will publish in their organ, the *Evangel*, a series of studies provided by the Institute, and will everywhere at conventions and in official correspondence recommend the Institute Outline Bible Club Course for Christian organizations.

The Christian Endeavor Society, as an organization, has many times indorsed the Institute Club Course, but certain unions also have taken special action upon the question. These are, up to date, the State Unions of Michigan and Illinois, the State Union connected with the Friends' denomination in Iowa, and three Colonial Unions in Australia.